

Friendly Fifth Friday News March 17, 2017

In an attempt to help our lodge leaders become more familiar with resources, changes, deadlines and other information, I will compile a weekly "Friendly Fifth Friday News" email to our leadership. Some of the information you might already have, but hopefully it will be a good reminder for all of us (me included) of all the great resources that Sons of Norway has to offer. **Please feel free to cut and paste any of this information for your lodge's use!**

Darlene Arneson, District 5 Secretary

-

Around our District...

Elvedal, Sons of Norway in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin is sponsoring a bus trip on August 16, Wednesday, 2017 to the Coon Valley area of Wisconsin. Our first stop will be to Norskedalen , Norwegian Heritage Center located near Coon Valley. A lunch at Norskedalen will include a Scandinavian meal of Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable and a dessert.

At Norskedalen we will have a tour of the homestead, the heritage hall museum, and nature room. We will also see a demonstration of carving or rosemaling. We will be entertained with music during lunch.

Following Norskedalen, we will be traveling to Westby to shop and the Cashton area to visit the Amish community . Cost is \$80 per person.

Reservations need to be made by June 16. Everyone is invited .

Please call Pris Kellogg to confirm your spot. [715 -213 -4277](tel:715-213-4277)

Corrections to the District Directory

A few lodges have sent in some changes but I don't have all the details yet so will post periodic updates here.

I did neglect to remove our September 2016 Board date when I cut and pasted the fall months. The board met LAST September in LaCrosse. We will set our Fall District Board meeting date when we meet in Stoughton next month.

Questions on the new Simplified Dues Structure

As we have read in the Viking and other Sons of Norway communications, the new Simplified Dues Structure will take place in January 2018. I am getting questions and concerns from lodges about details and I really don't know a lot more than what is being published and sent out.

Tomorrow International Jon Grinde is covering this topic at the Zone 3 meeting so I can share his comments next week. There is a tab on the International website that gives more information. We have some options for lodges who will see a dues increase- keeping the dues on the lodge level, refunding the difference, using the additional amount for a member benefit on the lodge level, and others.

From the website:

Update on Sons of Norway's Simplified Dues Structure

Sons of Norway International delegates voted at the 2014 and 2016 International Lodge Meetings to proceed with a simplified dues structure for U.S. members only, effective January 1, 2018. The vote to implement the Simplified Dues Resolution sets the rule for the entire organization, and will put into effect the will of the International Lodge, your elected representatives.

We will continue to communicate with members about this change in dues structure as we get closer to the Jan. 1, 2018 implementation date.

2014 Resolution

Investigating and pursuing a simplified dues structure was voted on and approved by the delegates to the 2014 International Lodge Meeting. Delegates overwhelmingly supported the following resolution forwarded for consideration by District Five:

WHEREAS the current dues structure and membership categories are complicated and very hard to explain to prospective members AND for current members to understand; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a committee be established by the International Lodge President to present a resolution in 2016 to the International Lodge which will simplify the current membership classifications to include Insurance/Social and Individual/Family and make total dues for each lodge consistent within each country.

2016 Resolution

In August 2016 at the International Lodge Meeting in Tacoma, a new dues structure was voted in by a strong delegate majority vote (121-32). This resolution applies to dues within the United States only.

Simplified Dues Resolution

WHEREAS the current dues structure and membership categories are complicated and very hard to explain to prospective members AND for current members to understand; and,

WHEREAS the 2014 meeting of the International Lodge passed a resolution for a committee to present a resolution in 2016 to simplify the current membership classifications to include Insurance/Social and Individual/Family and to make total dues for each lodge consistent within each country;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following law changes will be made to accommodate a more simple dues structure. As it states in the Constitution, the International Board of Directors will set dues annually at the Spring meeting. Effective January 1, 2018, the U.S. dues will be \$60 for an individual and \$95 for a family. The breakdown will be allotted as follows:

\$60 Individual Dues	INTERNATIONAL	\$32 <i>(no change)</i>
	DISTRICT	\$14
	LOCAL	\$14
\$95 FAMILY DUES	INTERNATIONAL	\$42 <i>(reduction)</i>
	DISTRICT	\$25
	LOCAL	\$28

Q & A

Will the dues still be discounted for central lodge members with an insurance product?
Yes.

Do current Golden and Life members lose their special dues rates?

No. Life members will continue to be free; Golden members who qualify before 2018 will retain their reduced rates. Rates for Golden members will be set by the International Board at their spring 2017 meeting.

Do Unge Venner need to share an address with a family member to be free?
Yes.

Do Heritage members need to share an address with a family member to be free?
Heritage members are always free.

How were the dues changes determined?

The dues figures were settled on after reviewing the full range of amounts paid across the organization. The goal was to ensure that this change would not financially penalize lodges.

If a lodge doesn't need to collect the \$14 local fee, may it be refunded to members?
Those lodges that have little to no dues at present may use the additional funds to increase programing, charitable giving and/or community support, or they may refund the dues income to their members.

How will the simplified dues structure be of benefit to members?

Simplifying the dues structure to maintain consistency throughout the U.S. has been a discussion point for years. With the new plan in place, more time will be freed up for sons of Norway staff to better serve our members.

Sons of Norway District 5

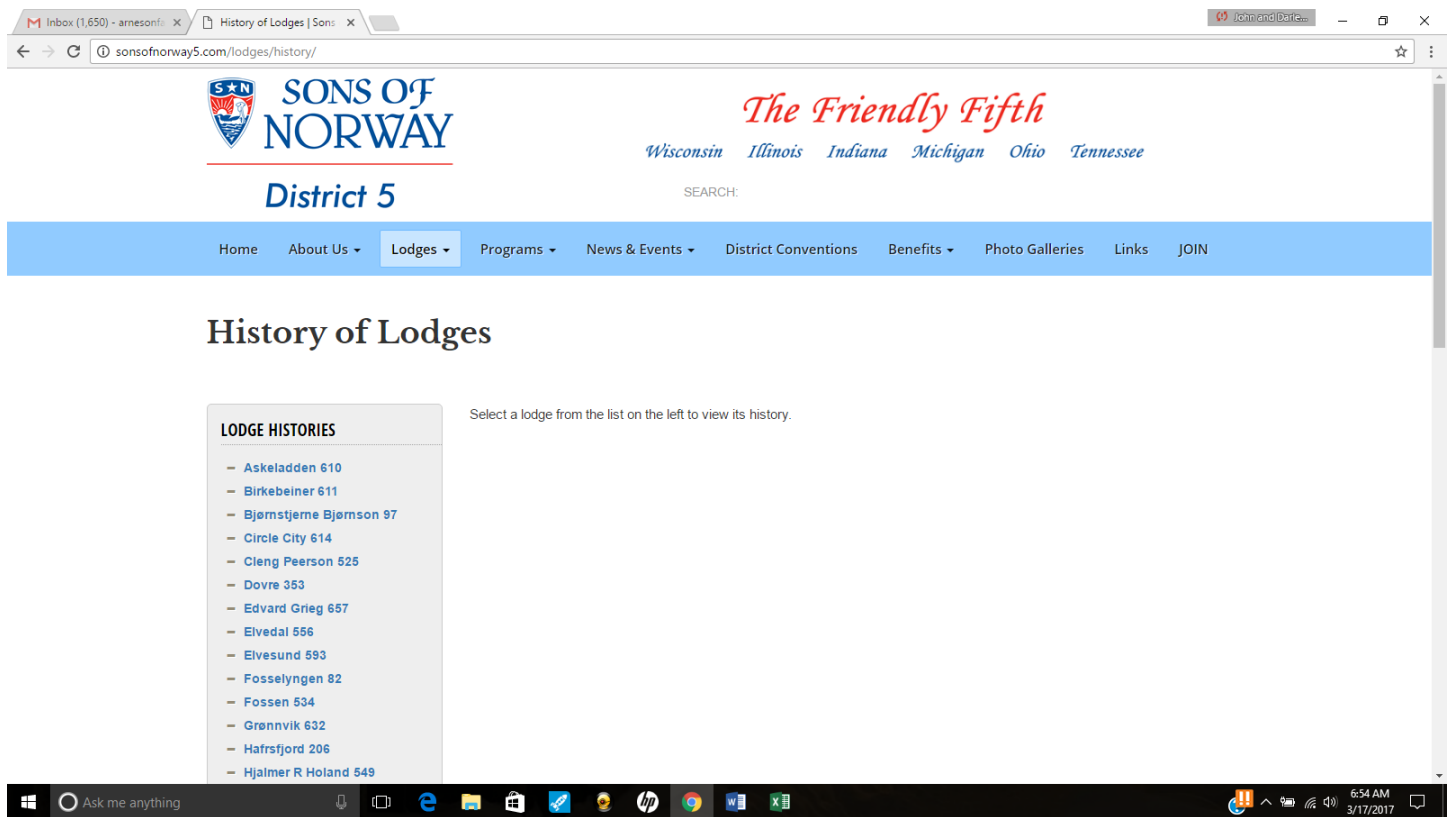
1st Annual Chili Cook-off!

There are as many different types of chili as there are members in each Lodge! Share your best chili in the 1st annual District 5 chili cook-off! Pick a meeting and make it a social extravaganza by getting members to create their famous chili for one and all to enjoy! Each Lodge will judge all chili entries and decide on a winner—either by a panel of experts or by a consensus of the members. The winners will get their names (and hopefully a picture) on the D5 website, a blue ribbon, a certificate and most importantly, “bragging rights” for the year! Please complete the activity and report to District Sports Director Michaela Decker by March 31, 2017 by emailing report and photos to michaeladecker@wi.rr.com



Lodge History- is your's updated?

On the District website, there is a tab for lodge histories. If you haven't checked yours lately, you might want to and then send the updated version to District webmaster Richard Fairchild.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the website for Sons of Norway District 5. The page title is "History of Lodges". The navigation menu includes "Home", "About Us", "Lodges", "Programs", "News & Events", "District Conventions", "Benefits", "Photo Galleries", "Links", and "JOIN". The "Lodges" menu item is highlighted. Below the navigation menu, the page is titled "History of Lodges". On the left side, there is a section titled "LODGE HISTORIES" with a list of lodge names and numbers: Askeladden 610, Birkebeiner 611, Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson 97, Circle City 614, Cleng Peerson 525, Dovre 353, Edvard Grieg 657, Elvedal 556, Elvesund 593, Fosselyngen 82, Fossen 534, Grønnevik 632, Hafstjord 206, and Hjalmer R. Holand 549. To the right of this list, there is a prompt: "Select a lodge from the list on the left to view its history." The browser's address bar shows the URL "sonsofnorway5.com/lojges/history/". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 6:54 AM on 3/17/2017.

Send all web posting info to inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com

2016-2018 Biennium District 5 Lodge Calendar and Other Deadlines

March 2017

- March 18- Zone 3 meeting hosted by Vakkertland Lodge – Mauston
- March 31- Chili Cook off information and pictures due to Sports Director Michaela Decker

April 2017

- April 1 - **Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship** due
- April 7-8- District 5 Board Meeting in Stoughton, WI
- April 30- District Bowling Tournament Ends. Send forms in by May 10 to District Sports Director

May 2017

- May 10- Bowling forms due to District Sports Director
- May 15- Deadline for filing the **990 form**
- May 17- Early registration deadline for **Masse Moro Norwegian Heritage Camp** to qualify for additional deductions in the cost of camp from the Draxten Fund.

June 2017

- June 27- Balance due for **Masse Moro Norwegian Heritage Camp** registrations.

July 2017

- July 16-29 - **Masse Moro Norwegian Heritage Camp** - Beaver Creek Reserve - Eau Claire, WI

September 2017

October 2017

- October 15- **Lodge liability premium due** to International SN office
- Nominating Committee report due to Lodge

November 2017

- Elect Lodge Officers for coming year (unless you have two-year officer terms)

December 2017

- December 1 – SN Foundation **General Heritage and Culture** grants due
- December 15 –SN Foundation **Local Lodge Partnership and Helping Hands to Children** grants
- December 15- **D-63 Report of Elections** due. Send one copy to International Headquarters and one to District Secretary.

Note:

- **Check correspondence from the International and District and the International (www.sofn.com) and District (www.sonsofnorway5.com) websites for any updates and changes** Additional deadlines for the District 5 and International Conventions/Lodge Meetings will be added as those dates are established. Watch for future mailings and the District 5 website.
- The District 5 Convention will be June 27-July 1, 2018 at Hotel Radisson in La Crosse, Wisconsin.
- The International Sons of Norway Convention will be August ____ in Minneapolis, MN.

Compiled by Darlene Arneson, SN District 5 Secretary (arnesonfamily5@gmail.com or 608-873-7209)